Scarlet Palace
CHAPTER 21
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Chapter 27
The dream with you

BROTHER YUANREN
IS NOT A CHILD OF THE JING FAMILY
AND HE HAS HAD A CHILD WITH LADY MINGHE?
WHAT IS GOING ON?

WHAT HIS PLAN IS ABOUT,
I HAVE NOW TOLD YOU.
THAT MEANS
YUANREN IS THE CURRENT KING'S OLDER BROTHER?
YUANREN
IS A PRINCE FROM THE PREVIOUS KING?
NO.
YUANREN WANTS HIS CHILD TO BE THE NEXT KING OF DING...
THAT'S WHY HE WAS TOGETHER WITH MY LADY, RIGHT?
THAT IS BECAUSEIN THE JING CLAN, I AM THE ONLY ONE WHO KNOWS OF HIS TRUE IDENTITY.
I USED THAT TO THREATEN HIM... IN ADDITION, HE FEELS THAT HE IS INDEBTED TO ME.

...
COULD IT BE?
YUANREN?
WHEN UNCLE SU PASSED AWAY...
YUANREN'S SORROWFUL APPEARANCE
INDEBTED?
DID YOU THINK THAT MY FATHER...
REALLY FELL OFF HIS HORSE IN AN ACCIDENT?
FATHER TOLD ME THIS SECRET,
IN ORDER FOR ME TO KEEP A CLOSE REIN OVER YUANREN.
BUT NOW I USED THIS SECRET TO THREATEN HIM TO BE TOGETHER WITH ME INSTEAD.
IF FATHER KNEW ABOUT THIS, HE WOULD SURELY REBUKE ME..

THE YOU AS OF NOW WOULD UNDERSTAND THAT MOST CLEARLY!
EVEN IF WE OBEY OUR CLAN'S ARRANGE-MENTS FOR US,
LILTIMATELY WE STILL WANT TO BE WITH THE PERSON WE LIKE.
LADY MINGHE ...
IT'S JUST THAT . THE PERSON YUANREN LIKES ISN'T ME.
IT IS YOUR NAME THAT HE MUMBLES IN HIS SLEEP
ALL THESE ...
I DIDN'T KNOW...
WHICH IS WHY HE WILL NOT GIVE UP,
HE WILL DEFINITELY FIND YOU.

DO YOU REALLY THINK..
HE WILL LEAVE THE COUNTRY OF DING?
LINGYU?
LORD LING AND I ...
WILL LEAVE THE COUNTRY OF DING
WILL HE SIT BY AND WATCH..
WITHOUT A CARE ABOUT THE KING'S SAFETY?
YUANREN HAS THE COUNTRY OF XIA BACKING HIM.
IF DING AND XIA WERE TO START A WAR, VICTORY OR DEFEAT WOULD BE DIFFICULT TO PREDICT
HIS MAJESTY WOULD HAVE A HARD TIME PROTECTING HIS THRONE
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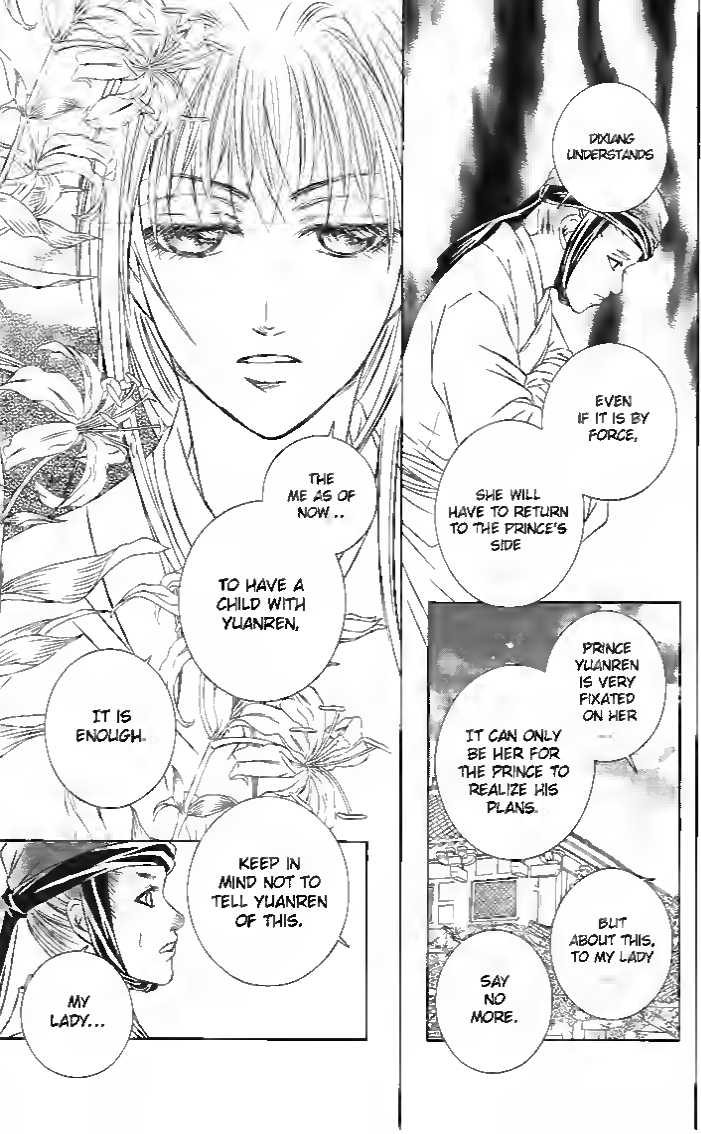

DIXUAN UNDERSTANDS
EVEN IF IT IS BY FORCE,
SHE WILL HAVE TO RETURN TO THE PRINCE'S SIDE
PRINCE YUANREN IS VERY FIXATED ON HER
IT CAN ONLY BE HER FOR THE PRINCE TO REALIZE HIS PLANS.
BUT ABOUT THIS, TO MY LADY
SAY NO MORE.
THE ME AS OF NOW..
TO HAVE A CHILD WITH YUANREN,
IT IS ENOUGH.
KEEP IN MIND NOT TO TELL YUANREN OF THIS.
MY LADY...

YOUR MAJESTY!
XIA HAS SENT TWO HUNDRED THOUSAND TAELS OF GOLD AND SILVER, INCLUDING THREE THOUSAND GOOD HORSES,
AS A DISPLAY OF GOOD BILATERAL TIES BETWEEN OUR COUNTRIES
THE COUNTRY OF XIA?
GOOD BILATERAL TIES?
ALTHOUGH IT LOOKS LIKE XIA IS PEACEFULLY COEXISTING WITH DING ON THE SURFACE,
BEYOND THAT, HOWEVER, THEY HAVE SINISTER INTENTIONS

THE KING OF XIA CANNOT BE TRUSTED.
XIA IS AN ENEMY COUNTRY OF DING.
THE GIFTS CANNOT BE ACCEPTED HASTILY
RETURN EVERYTHING
YOUR MAJESTY?
WITH IMMEDIATE EFFECT, CEASE ANY AMBASSADOR ACTIVITIES BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES
OTHER THAN THE PEOPLE OF DING,
NO ONE ELSE CAN BE TRUSTED.
shock
YOUR MAJESTY?

DOES ANY OF THE MINISTERS HAVE ANY DOUBTS?
TO HAVE BELIEVED IN A QI PERSON, LINGYU WAS OUR FOOLISHNESS IN THE PAST.
IN THE FUTURE, THERE WILL BE NO MORE PEOPLE FROM OTHER COUNTRIES WHO ARE ALLOWED TO STEP INTO THE PALACE
BUT REST ASSURED, MY MINISTERS,
JING YUANREN IS NOT LIKE THE OTHERS.
AH... HOW COULD WE HAVE ACTUALLY FORGOTTEN THAT THERE IS STILL A PERSON WHO CARRIES THE BLOOD OF XIA WITHIN THE ROYAL PALACE!

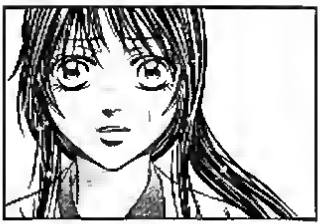
ALTHOUGH JING YUANREN IS OF XIA LINEAGE, HE IS EXTREMELY LOYAL TOWARDS US.
THE JING CLAN HAD THEIR COMEUPPANCE BECAUSE HE UPHELD JUSTICE ABOVE FAMILY RELATIONS.
A MAN OF SUCH LOYALTY...
COULD NOT POSSIBLY HAVE ANY TREACHERY IN HIM, COULD HE?
AND WILL CONTINUE TO DEVOTE MYSELF TO YOUR MAJESTY.
YUANREN IS THANKFUL FOR YOUR MAJESTY'S TRUST.
WITH THIS SENTENCE FROM THE CHAMBERLAIN,
WE FEEL RELIEVED.

HURRY INTO THE PALACE!
YES!
HURRY!
THE PRINCE IS STILL AWAITING OUR NEWS!
WHAT MATTER COULD BE MAKING YOU ALL SO PANICKED?
YOU... LINGYU?
ARREST ALL OF THEM.

YOU ARE CALLED DIXIANG?
FOR JING YUANREN, IT'S A GIVEN THAT YOU WON'T SAY ANYTHING
BUT I, FOR THE KING... I WANT YOU TO SPILL EVERYTHING.
JING YUANREN IS THE CURRENT LORD CHAMBERLAIN!
OTHER THAN THIS, I WILL NOT SAY ANYTHING ELSE
WHO EXACTLY IS JING YUANREN?
YOU HAD BETTER CONFESS SOON...
THERE WILL BE LESS SUFFERING FOR YOU.

IN THE JING FAMILY I'VE NEVER DONE ANYTHING LIKE THESE
SWEEPING, WASHING CLOTHES PREPARING MEALS
IT IS JUST LIKE BEING A WIFE IN A NORMAL FAMILY
HERE
LIVE AN ORDINARY LIFE TOGETHER
IT'S AS IF I COULD, WITH LORD LING,

NO MATTER HOW FAR THE DISTANCE
I CAN'T HELP BUT THINK OF THESE THINGS
MY LORD
DOES THE KING KNOW OF YUANREN'S IDENTITY?
IS THE KING IN ANY DANGER?
YET IN THE ROYAL PALACE
IS YUANREN ONLY SEEKING REVENGE AGAINST THE LATE KING?
OR IS HE PLANNING ON USURPING THE THRONE?



MY LORD WILL ONLY BE AWAY FOR ABOUT A MEASLY 10 DAYS OR SO...
YET I MISS HIM SO MUCH
WHO?
IS MY LORD BACK?

General Zhaolin!
IT IS INDEED LADY JING..
ZHAOLIN IS HERE TO SEE MY LADY
I.. I'M NO LONGER A LADY NOW..
MY LADY, PLEASE REST ASSURED.
ZHAOLIN IS NOT HERE TO BRING MY LADY BACK TO THE PALACE..

MY LORD... HOW DID YOU FIND THIS PLACE...
I RECEIVED THE INFORMATION FROM SOMEONE WHO WAS TAILING LADY MINGHE.
WHICH IS WHY IT IS NO LONGER SAFE FOR ALL OF YOU TO STAY HERE
FOLLOWED LADY MINGHE?
THEN... ABOUT LADY MINGHE'S SON,
THE KING ALREADY KNOWS OF IT?
HIS MAJESTY?
IT WAS HIS MAJESTY WHO WISHED FOR ME TO COME AND INFORM ALL OF YOU.
THAT IS TO SAY...
THE KING ALSO KNOWS I HAVE LEFT TOGETHER WITH LORD LING...

THE KING...
IS SURELY FURIOUS AND DISAP-POINTED.
NINGHU HAS SAID BEFORE THAT SHE WOULD NOT LEAVE THE ROYAL PALACE.
AND YET...
THE KING HOPES THAT ALL OF YOU WOULD LEAVE DING AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.
LEAVE DING?
FOR YOUR SAFETY, IT WOULD BE BETTER IF ALL OF YOU LEFT.
WHETHER IT IS THE PALACE COURT, OR EVEN THE COUNTRY OF DING,
THERE WOULD BE A DRASTIC CHANGE SOON

EVEN IF ONE WANTED THEM TO LIVE ON, THINGS JUST DON'T HAPPEN AS EXPECTED
HE HAD MANY BROTHERS WHO DIED DURING THE SECRET DISPUTE FOR THE THRONE
HIS MAJESTY HAS SAID BEFORE...
A DRASTIC CHANGE...
DOES IT HAVE SOMETHING TO DO WITH YUANREN?
JUST LIKE WHAT HAPPENED WITH PRINCESS CHANG...
IS TRAGIC HISTORY GOING TO REPEAT ITSELF?
HOW WILL HIS MAJESTY DEAL WITH THE MATTER INVOLVING YUANREN?
THE KING'S HEART...
IS SURELY IN AGONY...

THE KING...
IS HE DOING WELL?
MY LORD!
ZHAOLIN HAS ALREADY CONVEYED THE MESSAGE, AND SHOULD BE LEAVING.
ZHAOLIN BELIEVES THAT HIS MAJESTY IS A STRONG PERSON,
WITH THE ABILITY TO FACE ANY CHANGES CALMLY.
IT'S NOT MUCH DIFFERENT FROM THE PAST.
THE KING IS STILL BUSY WITH POLITICAL AFFAIRS.
ONLY LORD LING HAS BEEN ABLE TO SEE IT ALL ALONG.
HIS OTHER SIDE...
HIS MAJESTY HAS ALWAYS BEEN THAT WAY IN FRONT OF HIS SUBJECTS.
YES.

DOES MY LADY HAVE ANY WORDS FOR THIS SUBJECT TO CONVEY?
PLEASE REPORT THIS TO THE KING, NINGHU HAS NOT FORGOTTEN WHAT THE KING HAS SAID BEFORE...
NINGHU'S LIFE WAS GIVEN TO HER BY THE KING.
IT REMAINS THE SAME NOW...
AND I HAVE EXPERIENCED IT BEFORE...
THE KING'S INNERMOST FEELINGS OF HELPLESSNESS AND LONELINESS...

IS LIVING LIFE HERE,
BETTER THAN THE PALACE?
MY LORD SURELY JESTS
OF COURSE A LIFE OUTSIDE THE PALACE CANNOT COMPARE TO A LIFE IN THE PALACE IN TERMS OF COMFORT
BUT..
HERE, I EXPERIENCE FEELINGS I'VE NEVER FELT IN THE PALACE.
EVEN IF THIS LIFE IS TRANSIENT AND COULD DISAPPEAR SOON...
I STILL HAVE NO REGRETS.
FAREWELL, LORD ZHAO.
I BELIEVE WE WILL MEET AGAIN.

YOUR MAJESTY,
LADY JING HAS ALREADY BEEN INFORMED.
UNDERSTOOD.
YOUR SUBJECT DID NOT SEE LORD LINGYU.

NINGHU
..
EVEN THOUGH WE DID NOT SEE YOU TOGETHER WITH LINGYU
THAT IS A SIDE OF YOU THAT WE HAVE NOT SEEN BEFORE.
YET WE KNOW HOW CONTENTED YOU ARE

NO NEED.
IS REALLY NOT GOING TO MEET WITH LADY JING?
YOUR MAJESTY
JUST WATCH AT HER A BIT MORE FROM HERE.
LET US.
AT THAT TIME WHEN THEY WERE BEING CHASED BEYOND THE PALACE,
AN UNBIDDEN THOUGHT CROSSED OUR MIND
IF WE KEPT CHASING,
WE COULD LEAVE BEHIND THE PALACE, LEAVE THE COUNTRY OF DING, LEAVE BEHIND MY IDENTITY AS THE KING OF DING

BUT...
WE KNOW WE COULDN'T LEAVE
JUST LIKE HOW WE KNOW WE ARE UNABLE TO STOP HER FROM BEING WITH LINGYU
THAT IS WHY...
LET THEM LEAVE INSTEAD!
IT'S TIME TO RETURN TO THE PALACE
YES, YOUR MAJESTY.

FOR THE SAKE OF WALKING DOWN THIS PATH,
WHO KNOWS HOW MANY THINGS HAVE HAD TO BE ABANDONED
BUT THIS TIME...
IT'S THE ONE THAT HURTS MOST, TO LET GO

YONG WANZHONG?
HAS BROTHER HEARD OF THIS PERSON?
HE IS A SUBJECT OF THE PREVIOUS DING KING.
IT FEELS LIKE I'VE HEARD OF THIS NAME SOMEWHERE...
ALTHOUGH THE PREVIOUS DING KING RELIED ON HIM HEAVILY,
THERE WAS AN INCIDENT WHEREIN HE ACCOMPANIED THE KING WHO WENT TO XIA FOR LEISURE, AND HE DISAPPEARED WITH NO NEWS
WHAT HAPPENED?
HMPH...
THIS PERSON'S SCHEMINGS
IS REALLY DEEPLY AND THOROUGHLY THOUGHT OUT

BUT THE MOST SURPRISING THING IS...
JING YUANREN...
IS ACTUALLY OF SUCH BIRTH...
You're back!
MY LORD!
When did you return?

JUST NOW.
THAT'S GREAT! THE VEGETABLES PICKED TODAY ARE REALLY FRESH.
ALRIGHT, ALRIGHT, I'M GOING!
I'M NOT GOING TO DISTURB YOU TWO!
ARE YOU NOT STAYING FOR A MEAL?
MY LORD...
YOU SEEM TO HAVE SOMETHING ON YOUR MIND?

NINGHU IS THE ONE WHO LOOKS LIKE SHE HAS SOMETHING ON HER MIND INSTEAD.
HAVE YOU BEEN LIVING WELL THE PAST FEW DAYS?
NONE AT ALL.
HAS ANYONE COME BY TO FIND YOU?
NO.. NONE!
TODAY, BROTHER LINGLU TOLD ME MANY STORIES ABOUT THE COUNTRY OF QI.
IT FEELS LIKE QI IS REALLY A BEAUTIFUL PLACE.

POVERTY AND STARVATION CAN CAUSE A PERSON TO LOSE THEIR HUMANITY
BEASTS WHO COMMIT CRIMES AS A LIVELIHOOD RUN AMOK
US WHO WERE BORN AS PEOPLE OF LOW CLASS
OUR LIVES ONLY HAVE VALUE IF WE SELL OURSELVES
EVEN IF YOU DIED NO ONE WOULD SPARE MORE THAN A PASSING GLANCE
EVEN HAVING A DREAM IS NOTHING MORE THAN A LUXURY.
AT THAT TIME THERE WAS SOMEONE WHO APPEARED TO SAVE THE WOMEN FROM THE COUNTRY OF DING
TO ME ...
THE COUNTRY OF QI IS A SORROWFUL AND ABYSMAL PLACE
MY LORD?

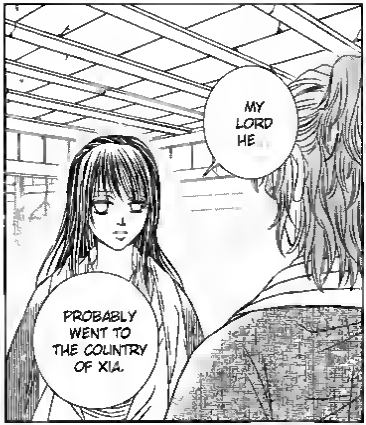
THAT PERSON'S DREAM
IS MUCH MORE REALISTIC THAN MINE!
THAT IS PROBABLY A DREAM THAT IS POSSIBLE TO FULFILL!
BECAUSE THEY ARE PEOPLE OF DING,
DOES IT MEAN THEIR FATES ARE DIFFERENT?
THAT PERSON SAID—
I WILL LIBERATE YOU FROM YOUR POVERTY!
I WILL BUILD A COUNTRY A HUNDRED TIMES STRONGER AND BIGGER THAN QI!

HIS MAJESTY'S DREAM..
IS ALSO MY DREAM.
NINGHU, DON'T CALL ME LORD AGAIN.
MY LORD..
THEN.. HOW SHOULD I ADDRESS YOU?
THEN..
HOW THE OTHER WIVES ADDRESS THEIR HUSBANDS,
IS HOW YOU SHOULD CALL ME.

HUS..
HUSBAND..
MY LORD!
YOUR HUSBAND SHALL DO SOME HUSBANDLY THINGS THEN!
YOU'RE REALLY MY MOST BELOVED WIFE!

MY HUSBAND
MY WIFE
WHAT A BLISSFUL DREAM
NINGHU
FORGIVE ME
FOR THE KING
MY HANDS CAN ONLY BE STAINED IN MORE BLOOD
ONE MUST AWAKEN FROM THIS DREAM.
IT'S JUST THAT TO FULFILL THE OTHER DREAM

A NING,
PACK YOUR LUGGAGE AND GET READY TO LEAVE!
BROTHER LINGLU?
WHERE IS MY LORD?
LINGYU, HE...
HAS GONE AHEAD.
WHERE DID MY LORD GO?
IT'S NO LONGER SAFE TO STAY IN DING.
HE WANTS ME TO BRING YOU TO QI FIRST,


MY LORD HE
PROBABLY WENT TO THE COUNTRY OF XIA.

ABOUT THAT
HE ONLY SAID THAT HE WAS GOING TO A FAR AWAY PLACE...

FOR THE SAKE OF THAT DREAM
HE CAN ONLY SACRIFICE EVERYTHING
IN THE END, MY LORD KNEW ABOUT EVERYTHING
BROTHER LINGLU,
I'M NOT GOING TO THE COUNTRY OF QI ANYMORE.
I...
REALLY HAVE NO POWER TO PREVENT IT AT ALL?

WHERE ARE YOU GOING?
WHAT?
WILL RETURN TO THE ROYAL PALACE.
NINGHU
MY LORD'S DREAM
WILL ALSO BE MY DREAM.

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